

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 03209 061935Z

64

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 EB-07

OPIC-03 /069 W

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R 061800Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3020

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PO

SUBJ: TRAVEL OF PORTUGUESE VIP'S

REF: LISBON 3039

1. PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES (ACCOMPANIED BY FOREIGN MINISTER) WILL
END FRENCH VISIT JUNE 7. VISIT IS DOMINATING NEWS IN ALL
PORTUGUESE MEDIA, WITH NEWSPAPERS CARRYING REPORTS ON POSSIBLE
FRENCH ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AND LARGE PHOTOS OF PRESIDENT IN COMPANY OF

GISCARD AND OTHER FRENCH LEADERS. HOWEVER, UPBEAT NEWS COVERAGE
WAS COUNTERBALANCED JUNE 6 BY SHARP CRITICISM IN "DIAIRO DE
NOTICIAS" AND EMISSORA NACIONAL (PORTUGAL'S LEADING INFLUENCE):
CHARGING THAT FRENCH RECEPTION OF COSTA GOMES HAS BEEN
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PATRONIZING. FRENCH TELEVISION WAS ATTACKED VIOLENTLY FOR

HAVING BROADCAST LONG INTERVIEW WITH EXILED GENERAL SPINOLA. GISCARD WAS ACCUSED OF INSLUTING PRESIDENT THROUGH MORE SUBTLE, MEANS, PERSISTING IN QUESTIONING THE PRESIDENT'S ASSURANCES THAT PORTUGUESE REVOLUTION IS PROCEEDING IN LIBERTY. DIARIO ARTICLE ALSO STRONGLY ATTACKED MITTERAND AND FRENCH SOCIALISTS FOR THEIR CRITICISM OF GOP OVER HANDLING OF "REPUBLICA" AFFAIR, INCLUDING ITALIN COMMUNIST PARTY LEADERS IN A GENERAL CONDEMNATION OF INTERFERENCE BY FOREIGNERS IN PORTUGUESE INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

2. LABOR MINISTER COSTA MARTINS IS CURRENTLY IN GENEVA, HEADING PORTUGUESE DELEGATION TO 60TH ANNUAL ILO CONFERENCE (REFTEL). COSTA MARTINS IS DUE TO RETURN TO LISBON JUNE 7.

3. FOREIGN MINISTER MELO ANTUNES WILL GO TO MADRID BEGINNING OF WEEK JUNE 8-14.

4. SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS JORGE CAMPINOS RETURNED JUNE 5 FROM BUCHAREST, WHERE HE MET GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND MEMBERS OF ROMANIAN COMMUNIST PARTY'S CENTRAL COMMITTEE. CAMPINOS STRESSED "TOTAL SYMPATHY AND UNDERSTANDING" HE ENCOUNTERED IN BUCHAREST AND SAID THAT PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES WILL SIGN IMPORTANT POLITICAL AGREEMENTS WITH ROMANIA DURING HIS FORTHCOMING JUNE 13-15 VISIT THERE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING DELEGATIONS, MEETINGS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LISBON03209
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750199-0284
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750674/aaaacpsx.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 LISBON 3039
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 APR 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <30 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRAVEL OF PORTUGUESE VIP'S
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, PO, FR, (COSTA MARTINS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006